

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

June 23, 2011

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Donald Kasprzak, Councilors Tim Carpenter (W1), Mark Tiffer (W2), George Rabideau (W3), Jim Calnon (W4), Chris Case (W5), Chris Jackson (W6)

Absent: None

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on June 16 2011 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Case; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending June 22, 2011 in the amount of \$ 287,541.29 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Case; Seconded by Councilor Jackson

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the week of June 16 – June 22, 2011
- Report from the Building Inspector's Office from June 14 – June 20, 2011
- Report of Public Hearing held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on June 20, 2011
- Finance Department Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for the Months of April 2011 and May 2011

RESOLVED: That the reports as read are hereby ordered, received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Rabideau; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS:

- Recommendation from Planning Board regarding Animated Signs.

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLVED: That the bills Audited by the Common Council in the amount of \$ 1,480,007.24 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk (where required) are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Calnon
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL: None

7. OTHER ITEMS:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Kevin Farrington City Engineer for permission to advertise for bids for Contract # 2011-20 "Elm Street Sidewalk & Curb Construction."

By Councilor Case; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Traffic Zone Designation No. 935 to establish "two-way traffic on Steltzer Road from Broad Street to a point approximately 650-ft south of Broad Street which point coincides with the southerly exit from the now or formerly Plattsburgh College Suites."

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer
Discussion:

Councilor Tiffer said this request came to us through the City Engineer and he gave us an assessment on why he feels that this should be done. Some of the reasons that he stated were when they originally made it one way there's a tight turn around the cemetery on Steltzer and that tight turn did not allow for two way traffic and pedestrian traffic to safely go around that turn. So that is why they converted Steltzer into one way. This resolution is not going to change that section of the road that's going to remain one way. This is for the entrance to Steltzer. Two points that I would like to make why I feel that I can support this is. If cars want to go the opposite way on a one way we have to enforce the one way whether it's a two way lane or a one way lane. By creating two-way traffic we

are notifying on coming cars that this is a two way road they know that two-way traffic is going to occur. By leaving it one way there is a potential for people to go the opposite way, take that shortcut on Broad. Right now cars are doing a one mile detour around and they are forced to go on a congested road which is South Catherine which is primarily residential and the South Catherine and Broad. Those two intersections are already congested. By creating this two way entrance we are alleviating some congestion out of those roads and thus I can support this that's the main reason.

Councilor Carpenter said surprisingly I can't support it for almost the same reason. Unless we do something to alleviate the problem coming off Steltzer on to Broad Street you just mentioned yourself that the South Catherine Street/Broad Street is an incredibly congested intersection. We're just going to add to problems if people come out there and try and turn left and try cut in to Broad Street traffic. They have a street light at the other end of Steltzer coming on to South Catherine so there's no real problem there and unless we do something to alleviate the problem going on to Broad, as it was suggested earlier by someone, make it a right turn only, maybe we need to consider a light or something if we really want to push this. As it stands, I can't support it like this.

Councilor Calnon said in general I'd like to support this because I think we need to have some solution to this but frankly I don't think we really have enough information to do so. I understand the need to alleviate a problem; I'm not convinced I understand the magnitude of the problem or as Tim just mentioned the ramifications of this particular solution. So I really am going to oppose this tonight and hope that the engineer will come back to us with some more information perhaps traffic counts, traffic counts when College Suites is busy and some discussion of options at Broad Street including the right hand turn only and those kinds of things. Like I said I really would like to vote for this but in its current configuration I'm going to oppose it tonight.

Councilor Tiffer said is there a way to withdraw this in order for the engineer to...

Mayor Kasprzak said you can table it.

Councilor Tiffer said isn't tabling just one week.

Councilor Calnon said you can postpone.

Councilor Carpenter said whether it's a yes or no vote it can be brought up again next week or whenever.

Mayor Kasprzak said when Kevin returns on Monday he'll know this and I'm sure he'll reach out to all of us. Hopefully, he'll talk to the Chief as well and even Mr. Brodi weighed in on things. Then he'll talk to us and maybe he'll end up talking about some of the things we've all included about right hand turns possibly or traffic counts and all that. Kevin suggested and recommended it so I'm sure he's not going to just say ok we're not going to do it. So I think he'll be diligent enough to come back to us but that's just my feeling.

Councilor Carpenter made a motion to Table; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Tabled

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that Contract # 2011-06 “Manufacture/Install Eco Docks @ Dock Street” in the total amount of \$51,980 and Contract # 2011-07 “Manufacture/Install Eco docks @ Wilcox Dock Park” in the total amount of \$48,455 be awarded to The Dock Doctors for the total bid amount of \$100,335.

By Councilor Tiffer; Seconded by Councilor Case
Discussion:

Councilor Tiffer said how is the condition of Wilcox Dock; I mean are they going to be able to do that work anytime soon.

Mayor Kasprzak said oh yeah, I think so both boat launches were utilized actually today but this week for the fishing tournament. Things are receding, so yeah it’s going to get done absolutely. I’m already worried about next year because if it doesn’t recede enough it’s still going to snow and all sorts of snow pack will melt next year and I hope we don’t have the same issues but yeah will be ok.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Therapy Nightclub and Sports Lounge to close down Margaret Street from Division Street to Broad Street on Sunday, July 3, 2011 to hold a street dance from 3pm – 7pm with the band Lucid.

By Councilor Tiffer; Seconded by Councilor Case
Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. Motion to waive rule 4 for initial consideration “In view of the recent damage to the City owned building at the end of Dock Street, Tax parcel no. 207.20-1-2.31-2, and uncertainty over the future use of the property, the Common Council hereby accepts a surrender of the Lease between the City of Plattsburgh and the Lake City Local Development Corporation, effective immediately.”

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Jackson
Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

RESOLVED: In view of the recent damage to the City owned building at the end of Dock Street, Tax parcel no. 207.20-1-2.31-2, and uncertainty over the future use of the property, the Common Council hereby accepts a surrender of the Lease between the City of Plattsburgh and the Lake City Local Development Corporation, effective immediately.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Case
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

1. Request from the Plattsburgh YMCA to conduct their 7th annual "Tour de Rand Hill" bike race on July 16, 2011.
2. Request from Bill Treacy, Manager MLD to write-off unpaid final bills from April 1, 2010 to April 30, 2010 in the total amount of \$3,144.15. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .23%.
3. Request from Corporation Counsel John Clute that the Mayor be authorized to sign the renewal of USCGA license agreement: The City of Plattsburgh renews the license agreement for the use of the Old Airbase Marina Property with the United States Coastguard Auxiliary Plattsburgh Flotilla 15-8 for one year from 6/1/2011 to 5/31/2012, on the terms set forth in the license agreement between the parties for 2010.
4. Request from Judy Ross at the Clinton County Health Department to use Trinity Park and the grassy area near the Lions Club Bandshell at MacDonough Monument for a training workshop on Wednesday, August 17, 2011 from 3pm – 5pm.
5. Recommendation from the Lake City LDC loan committee:

Resolution: Approval of Mortgage Loan Increase 64 Bridge Street

Resolved: The Common Council approves up to a \$20,000 increase in the mortgage loan from the City of Plattsburgh to Ames Furniture Co., Inc dba McFadden Furniture Inc. on the terms and conditions set forth in a report and recommendation from the Lake City LDC loan committee dated June 22, 2011, a copy of which is ordered made a part of the minutes of this meeting.

6. Request from the City Chamberlain to accept the quote from Adirondack Appraisal Services of \$1,450.00 for performing an Executive Summary Report appraisal on three City properties thereby establishing a potential sale value.

7. Resolution – Acquisition of Property for Green Street Walking Path

Resolved: The Common Council finds that a long abandoned rail road spur on the westerly side of Green Street is necessary to provide safe pedestrian access between Bridge Street and walking trails along the south bank of the Saranac River and a sidewalk along the northerly side of the former D&H Rail Yard; further

Resolved: The Corporation Counsel is authorized to commence legal proceedings under the New York Eminent Domain Law to acquire said abandoned rail spur for a public use.

8. Resolution: Acceptance of Lease Surrender

Resolved, in view of the recent damage to the City owned building at the end of Dock Street, Tax parcel no. 207.20-1-2.31-2, and uncertainty over the future use of the property, the Common Council hereby accepts a surrender of the Lease between the City of Plattsburgh and the Lake City Local Development Corporation, effective immediately. **(Move to agenda under “Other Items” Letter E)**

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Councilor Rabideau said I'd like to mention a card addressed to Mike Brodi and the Public Works Department. The card is from Marti Martin. I'll kind of paraphrase a little bit. On behalf of the organizing committee of the past three years of holding the Earth Day Celebration we want to thank you and your men for the support and help you have given us so these events can be held. And then there's mention of all the various support that Public Works had given and then at the bottom and all the ways you have assisted us for which we are grateful our City should be proud you are to be commended. Sincerely Marti Martin organizing committee Earth Day. Which I think is a well due card and I'm sure Public Works deserves that recognition.

Mayor Kasprzak said thank you George it's nice to receive kind words occasionally, we don't normally receive those types of compliments and Michael share that with your staff please.

Councilor Jackson said there will be a MLD Board meeting immediately following this Common Council meeting.

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:45 pm